

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EUR-25 INRE-00 SSO-00

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APPROVED BY NEA/GRK:GTCHURCHILL
DOD/ISA-MR. QUINN
DOD/ISA-COL. TALBERT
PM/ISO-COL. FLEMINGS
L/PM-MR. FIELDS
OP-06-ADM. TALLEY
L/T-MRS. MCDOWELL
EUR/RPM (FOR INFO)
NEA/GRK-LRGEORGE

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O R 091640Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
INFO CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCLANT
COMSIXTHFLT
COMNAVAIRLAN NORFOLD VA
COMFAIRMED NAPLES ITALY
CONFAIRMED REP ATHENS
CHJUSMAGG ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221490

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, US, GR
SUBJECT: AMENDMENT OF SOUDA BAY AGREEMENT

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REF: (A) CINCUSNAVEUR MSG 221620Z MAR 72 (NOTAL)

(B) STATE 133803 (242209Z JUL 72) (NOTAL)

(C) ATHENS 7716 (NOTAL)

1. GOG REDRAFT FORWARDED DEPARTMENT AND DOD BY PUGH LETTER OF OCTOBER 5, 1973, CONSTITUTES FUNDAMENTAL REWRITE OF 1959 SOUDA BAY AGREEMENT, AND PRESENTS CRITICAL PROBLEMS DUE TO VARIANCES WITH PROVISIONS OF 1953 MILITARY FACILITIES AGREEMENT AND APPENDIX 1 THERETO, AS WELL AS NATO SOFA, E.G., DURATION, RESIDUAL VALUE, AND CLAIMS PROVISIONS.

2. WE RECOGNIZE CONCERN CITED IN REF C WHICH REPEATED COMFAIRMED REP ATHENS 031200Z NOV 73 FOR SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR USE OF ELEFSIS AIRFIELD. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT DELAY MAY BE INEVITABLE IF PARTIES MUST CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS TO CONFORM GREEK REDRAFT ON SOUDA BAY TO MILITARY FACILITIES AGREEMENT AND NATO SOFA.

3. ACCORDINGLY, DEPT AND DOD RECOMMEND FOLLOWING SCENARIO, UNLESS EMBASSY ANTICIPATES INSURMOUNTABLE GOG OBJECTION:

A. USG AND GOG AGREE THAT AGREEMENT OF JULY 13, 1959,

AS AMENDED, REGULATES U.S. USE OF NATO MARITIME AIRFIELD, SOUDA BAY, CRETE, IN CONFORMITY WITH U.S.-GREECE MILITARY FACILITIES AGREEMENT OF 1953.

B. THIRD AMENDMENT TO SOUDA BAY AGREEMENT SHOULD BE CONCLUDED PER AD REFERENDUM AGREEMENT REPORTED REF A AND CONCURRED WITH BY REF B, WITHOUT SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE USE BY HOMEPORTED UNITS.

C. TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS, ALONG GENERAL LINE OF GOG REDRAFT FOR SOUDA BAY, MAY THEN PROMPTLY BE WORKED OUT FOR HOMEPORTING USE OF ELEFSIS AIRFIELD AND SOUDA BAY AIRFIELD.

4. THIS SCENARIO WOULD RECOGNIZE SEPARATION OF BASIC SOUDA BAY ARRANGEMENTS FROM ARRANGEMENTS CONCLUDED, AND YET TO BE CONCLUDED, WITH RESPECT TO USE OF FACILITIES
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IN GREECE BY HOMEPORTED UNITS.

5. FYI. OUR DESIRE FOR ABOVE SCENARIO TAKES INTO ACCOUNT REPORTS OF GOG DESIRES FOR GENERAL RENEGOTIATION OF U.S. FACILITIES AGREEMENTS. THAT IS MATTER USG WILLING TO CONSIDER IN CONTEXT OF ALL U.S.-GREEK AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING FUNDAMENTAL PROVISIONS OF 1953 MILITARY FACILITIES AGREEMENTS. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT WILLING TO

ACCEPT PROVISIONS AS TO GENERAL USE OF SOUDA BAY WHICH CONTRADICT MILITARY FACILITIES AGREEMENT AS PRESENTLY WRITTEN, AND COULD BE USED AS PRECEDENT FOR SUBSEQUENT EROSION OF OTHER U.S.-GREEK AGREEMENTS. SCENARIO WOULD MAINTAIN ACCEPTABLY AMENDED BASIC SOUDA BAY AGREEMENT, ALLOW TIMELY AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS ON ELEFSIS AND SOUDA IN CONCERT WITH ALREADY CONCLUDED TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS OF JANUARY 8, 1973, AND LEAVE MATTER OF OVERALL RENEGOTIATION OF U.S. FACILITIES AGREEMENTS FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION AT THE APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. END FYI.

6. AFTER EMBASSY REVIEW WITH APPROPRIATE INFO ADDRESSEES, CONVERSATIONS WITH GOG SHOULD PROCEED PER SCENARIO. IF EMBASSY CONSIDERS SCENARIO ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE TO GOG, REQUEST YOU SO REPORT SOONEST, AND DEPARTMENT AND DOD WILL FORWARD DETAILED NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING GOG REDRAFT. RUSH

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